



STATE OF INDIANA
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For Immediate Release

Excise Officers Cite 47 at Evansville Fall Festival

EVANSVILLE, Ind. (Oct. 7) – Indiana State Excise Police officers cited 47 people at Evansville's 91st Annual West Side Nut Club Fall Festival Oct. 1-6.

That's a 57% drop from last year, when excise officers cited or arrested 110 people.

The event, which covers four blocks on W. Franklin Street, is one of the largest festivals in the country, drawing nearly 400,000 visitors.

This year, excise officers cited 38 juveniles for possession of tobacco, four minors for possession or consumption of alcohol, three people for furnishing tobacco to a juvenile and two adults for furnishing alcohol to a minor.

Many of those ticketed or arrested by excise police this year were caught in the alleys near the festival on W. Franklin Street.

As the enforcement division of the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission, the primary mission of the Indiana State Excise Police is to promote public safety by enforcing Indiana's Alcoholic Beverage Code. While excise officers have the authority to enforce any state law, they focus primarily on alcohol, tobacco and related laws.

All criminal defendants are to be presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.